

Application No.: 08/957,833
Filed: October 27, 1997
Group Art Unit: 2772

In the claims:

Please amend claims 1, 15, 31, and 49 as indicated.

- 1 1. (Twice amended) A method for generating a mosaic image with
2 an appearance that approximates a target image by utilizing a
3 plurality of source images and a computer, comprising the steps
4 of:
5 loading the target image into the computer;
6 dividing the target image into a plurality of tile regions,
7 each tile region representing a distinct locus of the target
8 image, and
9 for each tile region:
10 dividing the tile region into distinct sub-regions;
11 comparing generally complex source images to the tile
12 region to produce a measurement of visual similarity, said
13 comparing step including comparing each sub-region of the
14 tile region with a corresponding portion of each source image
15 to produce the measurement of visual similarity;

- 2 -

Application No.: 08/957,833
Filed: October 27, 1997
Group Art Unit: 2772

*C1
cancel.*

16 selecting the source image with the highest measurement
17 of visual similarity to represent the tile region; and
18 positioning the selected source image in the mosaic
19 image at a locus corresponding to the locus of the tile
20 region.

C2

114 15. (Twice amended) An apparatus for generating a mosaic image
2 with an appearance that approximates a target image by utilizing a
3 plurality of source images, comprising:
4 A computer workstation that executes mosaic generation
5 software being operative to divide the target image into a
6 plurality of tile regions, each tile region representing a
7 distinct locus of the target image,
8 said mosaic generation software being further operative to
9 operate upon each tile region to:
10 divide the tile region into distinct sub-regions;
11 compare a plurality of generally complex source image
12 portions to the tile region to produce a measurement of visual
13 similarity, the comparing including comparing each sub-region of
14 the tile region with a corresponding portion of each source image

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C² concl.
15 to produce the measurement of visual similarity;
16 select the source image with the highest measurement of
17 visual similarity to represent the tile region; and
18 position the selected source image in the mosaic image
19 at a locus corresponding to the locus of the tile region.

C³
19 31. (Twice amended) An article comprising a substrate having a
2 mosaic image thereupon, said mosaic image having an appearance
3 that approximates a target image through use of a plurality of
4 source images, and which mosaic image is generated by a process
5 executed with a computer comprising the steps of:
6 loading the target image into the computer;
7 dividing the target image into a plurality of tile regions,
8 each tile region representing a distinct locus of the target
9 image, and
10 for each tile region:
11 dividing the tile region into distinct sub-regions;
12 comparing generally complex source images to the tile
13 region to produce a measurement of visual similarity, said
14 comparing step including comparing each sub-region of the tile

Application No.: 08/957,833
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C³
canal.

15 region with a corresponding portion of each source image to
16 produce the measurement of visual similarity;
17 selecting the source image with the highest measurement
18 of visual similarity to represent the tile region; and
19 positioning the selected source image in the mosaic
20 image at a locus corresponding to the locus of the tile region.

C⁴

14 49. (Twice amended) A storage medium for use with a computer
2 comprising a substrate for storing at least one mosaic image
3 having an appearance that approximates a target image through use
4 of a plurality of source images, and which mosaic image is
5 generated by a process comprising the steps of:
6 loading the target image into the computer;
7 dividing the target image into a plurality of tile regions,
8 each tile region representing a distinct locus of the target
9 image, and
10 for each tile region:
11 dividing the tile region into distinct sub-regions;
12 comparing generally complex source images to the tile
13 region to produce a measurement of visual similarity, said